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VERMONT HORSE COUNCIL MINUTES

June 13, 2023

The June VHC meeting was held via zoom. The meeting was called to order by Jeannette Cole, Secretary/Treasurer at 7:06 pm. President Mikayla Pick was on the call but was having audio issues. In attendance were: Monica Raymond, Kerrie Garvey, Lisa LaFont, Mikayla Pick, Jim Robinson and, Jeannette Cole. Jean Audet and Robin Severy were absent. Member Heidi Krantz was present for part of the meeting.

Treasurer’s report: Checking account = $11, 706.39 and savings account = $8,283.17. May expenditures included: $650 payment for stump grinding at Silver Lake, $280 payment for horse suppleness clinician, and $200 refund to Frazer Insurance for the Summit. Upcoming expenditures are $1500 for web design and $1404 for insurances (D&O and Liability). A copy of the QuickBooks reports will be sent to BOD via email. It was not available at this meeting. Treasurer report unanimously accepted as presented.

Secretary’s report: The minutes from the April 11, 2023, meeting was sent to all BOD members for review prior to the meeting. Two items were updated in the minutes: the amount of the grant was $18750, and the grant was requested from North Forest Coalition. The minutes were unanimously approved with these noted corrections.

TRAILS

A report out of the Willoughby and Island Pond reconnaissance trip (June 7 & 8) was given by Monica Raymond. Next step on Willoughby is to set up a public meeting and present the reviewed equestrian trails to the public. Island Pond campsites/parking needs attention (brush clearing and mowing). We also discussed the need to correct the Victory map for current parking.

Laurie Baird is going to do a reconnaissance trip on horseback for potential additional equestrian trails at Silver Lake. This will happen in over the next month.

EXECUTIVE

We received a request for scholarship from one individual. It did not meet the criteria set out for our scholarships. In addition, until the scholarship coffers are replenished, we have suspended awarding money. Mikayla will contact the requesting individual.

Membership rolls are up to date in the google drive. We have \_\_\_\_ members as of this meeting.

We reviewed the “drop to google folders” items. We made a folder for receipts and invoices.

Insurance for the Jericho ride was discussed. All members are covered on this ride with no additional charge. We are waiting on determination for additional insured landowners.[[1]](#footnote-1)

There was a brief discussion on improving email protocol. Don’t keep tagging onto original email when the contents don’t have anything to do with the subject line.

There was a brief discussion about recruiting new leaders for the organization.

LEGISLATIVE

Heidi gave a report out on the Summit response numbers. While the topics, content and speakers are all in alignment with feedback from members, the response to the event was too low to warrant holding the event. After discussion a **motion was made to cancel the 2023 Summit.** The motion was unanimously approved. Heidi will reach out to the participants and determine if they require refunds.

Heidi gave an update on the Farm Bureau. The current executive director, Tommy O’Connor is leaving the position. He will be missed by VHC as he was an advocate for our community. It also leaves a void for the legislative liaison for equine businesses and members within Vermont.

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

**Hack, Maps and Apps (Jericho Ride)** – July 15, 2023. Planning is going well. Monica is organizing. Spots are filling quickly. As of this date there were 6 rider spots filled. There is a 20-rider limit. Filers have been distributed.

**Ice Cream Social/Rough Terrain Ride** – August 5, 2023. Mikayla is organizing. This will be a very special ride if we can get permission to cross private property to THE MOON. There will be no road riding if this is the case. Flyers need to be made and distributed. 9-10:30 am ride out as a staggered start on marked trails. After the ride there is an option to ride to get ice cream (additional 5 miles). Ride will be limited to 25 riders.

MARKETING/MEDIA

Website design upgrade is ongoing.

NEXT MEETING VIA ZOOM ON AUGUST 8, 2023, AT 7 PM. Please have committee updates and requested agenda items to Jeannette by August 01, 2023.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannette Cole

ACTION ITEMS:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| WHO | WHAT | INITIATED DATE | STATUS |
| Jeannette | Request QuickBooks reports from Nancy for email to BOD | June 13 |  |
| Monica | Willoughby Public Comment date | June 13 |  |
| Laurie | Report out on potential equestrian trails – Silver Lake | June 13 |  |
| Jeannette | Schedule to bring DR mower to Island Pond | June 13 |  |
| Lisa | Contact other NEK users of Island Pond trails for assistance in maintenance of said trails and parking. | June 13 |  |
| Monica | Correct Victory parking map | June 13 |  |
| Mikayla | Contact scholarship award requestor. Does not meet criteria. | June 13 |  |
| Heidi | Refunds to Summit participants | June 13 |  |
| Mikayla | Flyers for Rough Terrain Ride | June 13 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| LISA | REVAMP OF RIDE AND DRIVE – PROPOSAL TO THE BOD | 2-26-23 | KERRIE TO ASSIST  4-11 No new updates  6-13 no new updates |
| ALL | GOOGLE DRIVE REVIEW OF “TO BE FILED” FOLDER | 2-26-23 | Completed at each meeting |
| KERRIE | INVESTIGATE SOFTWARE THAT MANAGES MEMBERSHIP DUE DATES AND RENEWAL STATUS (SQUARE SPACE? QUICKBOOKS? OTHER?) | 12-2022 | IN PROGRESS  4-11 no new updates  6-13 no new updates |
| ROBIN | LIFETIME MEMBERS WILL GET A RELEASE FORM TO SIGN ANNUALLY (PREFERABLY ONLINE) | 12-2022 | IN PROGRESS  6-13 no new updates |
| KERRIE | PILOT OF “MEMBERS ONLY” FB PAGE | 12-2022 | 4-11 update = This will be done when the new Website launches |
| KERRIE | ONLINE SHOPPING SITE | 12-2022 | TO BE INCLUDED WITH WEB REDESIGN – DECIDED ON SPRING FOR VENDOR |
| LAURIE | TRAIL TROTTERS BENEFIT RIDE | 12-2022 | Laurie is working on a date |
| LAURIE | SILVER LAKE WORKDAY | 12-2022 | Completed in JUNE |

1. Since the meeting, we received a quote for $120 to cover additional insured. BOD approved payment via email vote. Jeannette submitted the payment to the insurance company for $123.90 ($120 plus service fee of $3.90) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)